

ADVISORY OPINION 96-004

Any advisory opinion rendered by the registry under subsection (1) or (2) of this section may be relied upon only by the person or committee involved in the specific transaction or activity with respect to which the advisory opinion is required. KRS 121. 135(4).

September 26, 1996

Hon. Lloyd E. Spear  
Spear & Blackburn, P.S.C.  
Court and Second Streets  
Vanceburg, Kentucky 41179

Dear Mr. Spear:

This is in response to your August 27, 1996, letter requesting an advisory opinion regarding whether the Lewis County Democratic Executive Committee may spend money for "social expenditures" other than through its executive committee account. The Lewis County Democratic Executive Committee is a committee as defined by KRS 121.015(3)(d) subject to jurisdiction of the Registry as it is "an executive committee of a political party." As a committee, it may make "allowable campaign expenditures" as defined in KRS 121.175 and 32 KAR 2:200 which includes any expenditure "made directly and primarily in support of or opposition to a candidate, constitutional amendment, or public question which will appear on the ballot." This also includes expenditures necessary for administering a committee or campaign.

KRS 121.180(2) requires that executive committees make a full report of all contributions and expenditures. Consequently, all contributions to or expenditures by the executive committee must be recorded and reported. However, this does not mean that members of an executive committee are prohibited from making individual or joint charitable contributions or "social expenditures" from their own personal funds. As those expenditures are not related to the support or opposition of a political candidate or issue on the ballot or to the administration of the Lewis County Democratic Executive Committee, they are not regulated by KRS Chapters 121 or 121A.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the Registry at (502) 573-2226.

Sincerely,

Rosemary F. Center  
General Counsel

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